

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A car navigation apparatus configured to search facilities in a vicinity of an intersection which exists on a route comprising:

 a map data acquiring unit configured to acquire map data including road data, intersection information, and facility information;

 a current position detecting unit configured to detect a current position of a car;

 a route searching unit configured to search for a route to a destination based on the map data acquired by said map data acquiring unit;

 an intersection searching unit configured to search intersections in a vicinity of the current position from among intersections which exist on the route between the current position and the destination;

 an intersection name outputting unit configured to output intersection names which identify the intersections searched by said intersection searching unit, in order to allow a user to designate at least one of the intersection names;

 an intersection selecting unit configured to select an intersection by specifying an intersection name designated by the user;

 a facility searching unit configured to search for facilities which exist in a vicinity of the intersection selected by said intersection selecting unit through the map data acquired by said map data acquiring unit after said intersection selecting unit selects the intersection;

 a facility category outputting unit configured to output facility names categories which identify the facilities searched by said facility searching unit; and

 a display unit configured to display, in order of the route, some of the intersection names, which are outputted by the intersection name outputting unit in order to allow a user to designate at least one of the intersection names, on a part of a screen and simultaneously display a map for route guidance on an another part of athe screen.

2. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus includes a facility searching condition setting unit configured to set facility searching conditions for specifying facilities which are a target to be searched, and the facility searching unit searches for facilities which exist in a vicinity of the intersection selected by the

intersection selecting unit from the map data acquired by said map data acquiring unit according to the facility searching conditions set by said facility searching condition setting unit.

3. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the facility searching conditions set by the searching condition setting unit include a distance from the intersection selected by the intersection selecting unit or a traveling time required to travel from the intersection.

4. (Withdrawn) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the facility searching conditions set by the searching condition setting unit include a restriction imposed on directions in which the car can go out of the intersection selected by the intersection selecting unit.

5. (Withdrawn) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the facility searching conditions set by the searching condition setting unit include types of facilities or functions provided by facilities.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus has an intersection searching condition setting unit configured to set intersection search conditions for specifying intersections which are a target to be searched, and the intersection searching unit searches for intersections in a vicinity of the current position from among intersections which exists on the route between the current position and the destination according to the intersection searching conditions set by said intersection searching condition setting unit.

8. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus includes an angle sensor configured to detect a traveling direction of the car, and an expected-route-to-be-followed determining unit configured to determine an expected route to

be followed by the car in case that the destination is not designated, based on the traveling direction detected by said angle sensor and the map data acquired by the map data acquiring unit, and the intersection searching unit searches for intersections in a vicinity of the current position through intersections which exist on the expected route to be followed determined by said expected-route-to-be-followed determining unit when no route is searched for by the route searching unit.

9. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising;

a facility selecting unit configured to select a facility by specifying a facility name outputted by said facility name outputting unit; and

a facility information outputting unit configured to extract facility information about the facility selected by said facility selecting unit from the map data acquired by said map data acquiring unit, and for outputting the facility information.

Claims 10-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A car navigation apparatus configured to search facilities in a vicinity of a connecting road which exists on a route, where a connecting road is a road which meets or crosses the route comprising:

a map data acquiring unit configured to acquire map data including road data, connecting road information, and facility information;

a current position detecting unit configured to detect a current position of a car;

a route searching unit configured to search for a route to a destination based on the map data acquired by said map data acquiring unit;

a connecting road searching unit configured to search connecting roads in a vicinity of the current position from among connecting roads, which are roads connected to the route between the current position and destination;

a connecting road name outputting unit configured to output connecting road names which identify the connecting roads searched by said connecting road searching unit in order to allow a user to designate at least one of the connecting road names;

a connecting road selecting unit configured to select a connecting road by specifying a connecting road name designated by the user;

a facility searching unit configured to search for facilities which exist in a vicinity of the connecting road selected by said connecting road selecting unit through the map data acquired by said map data acquiring unit after said connecting road selecting unit selects the connecting road;

a facility category outputting unit configured to output facility genre informationcategories which identifies the facilities searched by said facility searching unit; and

a display unit configured to display, in order of the route, some of the connecting road names, which are outputted by the ~~connect~~connecting road name outputting unit in order to allow a user to designate at least one of the connecting road names, on a part of a screen and simultaneously display a map for route guidance on an another part of the screen.

15. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 14,

wherein said apparatus includes a facility searching condition setting unit configured to set facility searching conditions for specifying facilities which are a target to be searched, and the facility searching unit searches for facilities which exist in a vicinity of the connecting road selected by the connecting road selecting unit from the map data acquired by said map data acquiring unit according to the facility searching conditions set by said facility searching condition setting unit.

16. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 15,

wherein the facility searching conditions set by the searching condition setting unit include a distance from the connecting road selected by the connecting road selecting unit or a traveling time required to travel from the connecting road.

17. (Withdrawn) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 15,
wherein the facility searching conditions set by the searching condition setting unit
include a restriction imposed on directions in which the car can go out of the connecting road
selected by the connecting road selecting unit.

18. (Withdrawn) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 15,
wherein the facility searching conditions set by the searching condition setting unit
include types of facilities or functions provided by facilities.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 14,
wherein said apparatus has a connecting road searching condition setting unit configured to set
connecting road search conditions for specifying connecting roads which are a target to be
searched, and the connecting road searching unit searches for connecting roads in a vicinity of
the current position through connecting roads which exists on the route searched by the route
searching unit and which exists between the current position detected by the current position
detecting and the destination according to the connecting road searching conditions set by said
connecting road searching condition setting unit.

21. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 14,
wherein said apparatus includes an angle sensor configured to detect a traveling direction
of the car, and an expected-route-to-be-followed determining unit configured to determine an
expected route to be followed based on the traveling direction detected by said angle sensor and
the map data acquired by the map data acquiring unit, and the connecting road searching unit
searches for connecting roads in a vicinity of the current position through connecting roads
which exist on the expected route to be followed determined by said expected-route-to-be-
followed determining unit when no route is searched for by the route searching unit.

22. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 14 further comprising;

a facility selecting unit configured to select a facility by specifying a facility type information outputted by said facility outputting unit; and
a facility information outputting unit configured to extract facility information about the facility selected by said facility selecting unit from the map data acquired by said map data acquiring unit, and for outputting the facility information.

23. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the display unit updates the intersection names to display when the current position passed through the nearest intersection or when the current position has strayed from the route and a re-determination of the route is carried out.

24. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the display unit updates the intersection names to display when the current position passed through the nearest connecting road or when the current position has strayed from the route and a re-determination of the route is carried out.

25. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the intersection selecting unit and the facility selecting unit are provided with a key, a remote controller, a touch panel, or a voice recognition device for specifying an intersection name outputted by the intersection name outputting unit and a facility name outputted by the facility name outputting unit.

26. (Previously Presented) The car navigation apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the connecting road selecting unit and the facility selecting unit are provided with a key, a remote controller, a touch panel, or a voice recognition unit for specifying an a connecting road name outputted by the connecting road name outputting unit and a facility type information outputted by the facility outputting unit.